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SCA maintains FSC FM certification while constructive dialogue continues

Since last summer, SCA has been engaged in an ongoing and constructive dialogue with the Swedish Sámi Association (Svenska Samernas Riksförbund, SSR) and FSC International regarding the challenges and opportunities related to the application of FSC forest management certification.

Late March 2026, SCA and the Swedish Sámi Association (SSR) entered into an agreement to deepen cooperation between SCA, SSR and the reindeer husbandry sector. The agreement establishes a structured framework for long-term collaboration, including enhanced co-planning processes, continuous dialogue at both central and local levels, and the integration of reindeer husbandry adaptations into forestry planning. Its purpose is to strengthen the conditions for reindeer husbandry while ensuring that forestry operations are conducted in a predictable, responsible and economically sustainable manner over time.

As part of its ambition to create long-term stability and predictability in this strengthened cooperation, SCA has decided to remain a member of Forest Stewardship Council and to continue FSC certification of its forestry operations, provided that the ongoing dialogue continues to be constructive and capable of delivering workable solutions. The decision reflects SCA's assessment that credible certification, based on independent third-party audits, clear standards and structured follow-up remains a central mechanism for ensuring responsible forest management. At the same time, it underscores the company's expectation that certification frameworks must support balanced, practical and legally sound outcomes that accommodate both reindeer husbandry and forestry.

In parallel with the dialogue with SSR, SCA is also engaged in discussions with FSC International regarding already identified challenges in the design and application of the Swedish forest management standard. SCA advocates for a certification system that is legally robust, science-based, and practically applicable, and that responsibly balances nature conservation, reindeer husbandry, climate efforts, and long-term forest production, with FSC members standing behind the jointly adopted FSC standards.

SCA's forestry operations have been FSC certified since 1999, and the company continues to view certification through FSC and/or PEFC as an important part of its sustainability work and of customers' confidence that raw materials originate from responsibly managed forest landscapes. All forestry operations are continuously monitored through independent third-party audits.

In the summer and autumn of 2025, SCA's forestry operations underwent several independent FSC audits, which confirmed that the operations meet FSC's requirements for responsible forestry. The forest management audit, which included two weeks of field inspections, interviews, and document reviews, resulted in a positive overall assessment with only minor non-conformities. The outcome demonstrates that SCA complies with established guidelines and can verify this to customers, investors, and other stakeholders.

SCA will continue to work together with all relevant stakeholders to strengthen dialogue and contribute to long-term sustainable solutions for both forestry and reindeer husbandry.

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